

FIRST LETTER (FL)

DATE

Dr. FIELD(Persnamf) FIELD(Persnaml)
FIELD(Address1)
FIELD(Address2)
FIELD(City) FIELD(State) FIELD(Zip1)- FIELD(ZIP2)
FIELD(Country)

Dear Dr. FIELD(Persnaml):

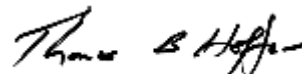
I am writing to ask for your help with the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED). This is an important annual survey of all new recipients of research doctorates from U.S. universities, and has been in continuous operation since 1958. The SED is being conducted by the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at the University of Chicago for several Federal agencies, including the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the U.S. Departments of Education and Agriculture.

The high quality standards of the SED have made it the most widely-used source of data on doctoral education in the United States. The results of this survey are used by governmental organizations and academic institutions for decisions about funding graduate education, developing new programs and supporting existing ones. The information you provide will be kept confidential and will be reported only in the form of statistical summaries. While your participation is voluntary, your help with the SED is a real service to graduate education in the United States and its many constituencies here and abroad.

Please take a few minutes to complete the survey on-line via our secure Web server at <https://survey.norc.net/sed2001>. To access the server, you must enter a PIN number and password. Your PIN is FIELD(PIN) and your password is FIELD>Password). If completing the survey on the Web is inconvenient for you, please complete the enclosed questionnaire and return it to NORC as soon as possible; I have included a postage-paid return envelope for your convenience. You can view the summary of results from the previous year of the survey by going to NORC's website at <http://www.norc.org/issues/sed-2000.pdf>.

We would be happy to talk to you about any questions or concerns that you might have about the SED at 1-800-248-8649 or by e-mail (4800-SED@norcmail.uchicago.edu). Thank you for your assistance, and I also want to extend my own congratulations to you for earning your doctoral degree.

Sincerely,



Tom Hoffer, Ph.D.
Project Director
Survey of Earned Doctorates

FIELD(Su_id)
Encl.